I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission in accordance with § 1.6(d) addressed to Art Unit 1652, Before Final Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306, the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date shown below.

Date: November 26, 2002

PATENT Docket No. GC382-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application:)
David A. Estell) Group Art Unit: 1652
Serial No.: 09/462,845) Examiner: Yong D. Pak
Filed: January 13, 2000) }
For: Proteases from Gram-Positive Organisms) \

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED AUGUST 29, 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir.

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed August 29, 2002, in the above-identified patent application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

A clean version of the rewritten, added, and/or cancelled claims with instructions for entry pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(1)(i) is included beginning on page 2 of this communication. A marked-up version of the rewritten, added, and/or cancelled claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(1)(ii) is attached as Appendix I. A clean version of the entire set of pending claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(3) as they would appear following entry of this amendment is